

SUTTER COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



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RON SULLENGER
FIRST DISTRICT, 2020 CHAIRMAN

July 7, 2020

Governor Gavin Newsom
1303 10th St Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Local data for COVID-19 cases and business continuity

Dear Governor Newsom:

Sutter County is committed to complying with federal and state public health orders, directives and guidance in response to the COVID-19 emergency. We appreciate your leadership and flexibility in allowing regional and local governments to implement the reopening of various sectors based upon local conditions. It is in this spirit that we ask the state to consider local data in any future state-ordered closing of businesses.

Sutter County is aware of the recent guidance issued to counties on the County Monitoring List. In Sutter County, contact tracing of positive COVID-19 cases shows the great number of cases are related to family gatherings of people from multiple households (and one workplace outbreak in a manufacturing facility).

Businesses in our community and across the state have invested a great deal of money, time and energy in mitigating COVID-19 transmission, in purchasing personal protective equipment, and increasing sanitation and training related to COVID-19 mitigation. Sutter County has created a team of employees from a variety of County departments to reach out to businesses and educate them on the importance of adherence to public health orders, to provide information and distribute PPE, and to assist in developing procedures to mitigate risks of COVID-19 transmission. It seems unjust to close certain businesses at this economically perilous moment without evidence they are a significant factor in the spike in cases.

Sutter County asks that the state take a closer look at the actual risk posed by industries, such as food service, where sanitation and social distancing are practiced, and reconsider whether it is necessary to order the closure of these businesses at all. As the state has been willing to do in the recent past, please allow local governments to make these decisions based upon local data.

Local businesses are the backbone of America and of Sutter County. Please enable us to support these business's operations during this critical time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ron Sullenger".

Ron Sullenger, Chairman